Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents

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Editor's Note: The President was at Camp David, MD, on November 23, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, November 23, 2001

Remarks on Signing the Aviation and Transportation Security Act

November 19, 2001

Thank you all very much. Today we take permanent and aggressive steps to improve the security of our airways. The events of September the 11th were a call to action. And the Congress has now responded.

The law I will sign should give all Americans greater confidence when they fly. All Members of Congress care deeply about this issue. Despite divergent views, the Congress worked closely with my administration to develop a bipartisan conclusion that will help protect American air travelers.

I want to thank the House and Senate leadership for their patience in this issue. I want to thank the Speaker and the minority leader; the leader of the Senate, Senator Lott; for working hard to make sure this bill came to fruition.

I also want to thank Chairman Don Young and John Mica and Jim Oberstar who have joined us today from the House. I want to thank you for your hard work. And I want to thank Members of the United States Senate: Chairman Hollings and John McCain and Kay Bailey Hutchison for their hard work.

I appreciate so very much the Secretary of Transportation and his steadiness and his ability to bring confidence to the process. I picked a good man in Norm Mineta, who is rising to the occasion.

I also want to thank his deputy, Michael Jackson, for his hard work. As well, I appreciate Jane Garvey joining us up here today. I see other Members of Congress who are here. Thank you all for coming. I appreciate you doing the right thing for America.

I also want to thank the pilots and flight attendants and the people of the airline industry who have joined us today. I want to thank you for your courage in the face of terror. I want to thank you for inspiring confidence amongst the American people.

The broad support for this bill shows that our country is united in this crisis. We have our political differences, but we're united to defend our country. And we're united to protect our people. For our airways, there is one supreme priority: security.

Since September the 11th, the Federal Government has taken action to raise safety standards. We've made funds available to the aviation industry to fortify cockpits. More Federal air marshals now ride on our airplanes. The Department of Transportation instituted a zero-tolerance crackdown on security breaches.

Our National Guard protects us in our airports. And I want to thank the National Guards men and women who will be working the holiday season. I want to thank them for being away from their families, thank them for providing more security for people who travel.

I appreciate the work the airlines have done with the Federal Aviation Administration. The airlines have started intense nighttime security sweeps of aircraft. They've tightened background checks for employees and implemented nondiscriminatory government-approved criterion for identifying passengers who require additional security.

Now, we take the next important step. For the first time, airport security will become a direct Federal responsibility overseen by a new Under Secretary of Transportation for Security. Additional funds will be provided for Federal air marshals, and a new team of Federal security managers, supervisors, law enforcement officers, and screeners will ensure all passengers and carry-on bags are inspected thoroughly and effectively. The new security force will be well trained, made up of U.S. citizens. And if any of its members do not perform, the new Under Secretary will have full authority to discipline or remove them.

At the same time, we will adopt strict new requirements to screen checked baggage, to tighten security in all other areas of airports, and to provide greater security for travelers by bus and by train. This bill sets a one-year deadline for the transition to the new system. It gives my administration the flexibility we need to make that transition work.

Ultimately, this bill offers local authorities the option to bring in outside experts—a method that's worked well in Israel and Western Europe—provided those outside experts can meet our rigorous new safety standards and requirements.

Security comes first. The Federal Government will set high standards, and we will enforce them. These have been difficult days for Americans who fly and for American aviation. A proud industry has been hit hard. But this Nation has seen the dedication and spirit of our pilots and flightcrews and the hundreds of thousands of hard-working people who keep America flying. We know they will endure. I'm confident this industry will grow and prosper.

The holidays will soon be here. Even after the last few months, we have much to be thankful for. We have a great country. We're a great people. We have our faith, our families, and our friends. And, thanks to this bill, we have a new commitment to security in the air. And that's good news, as Americans travel to celebrate this season with their loved ones.

It is now my honor to sign this important piece of legislation.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:53 a.m. in the lobby of Terminal A at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. S. 1447, approved November 19, was assigned Public Law No. 107–71.

Remarks at the Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation Ceremony

November 19, 2001

Thank you all. Please be seated. Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. I'm not going to speak too long, because our guest of honor looks a little nervous. Nobody's told him yet that I'm going to give him a pardon.

We're especially glad that so many of the young can come today. Thank you all for being here. In a few moments, you can come up and pet the turkey if you want to.

Nick Weaver and Stuart Proctor of the National Turkey Foundation are here, and I want to thank you both for being here—honored you're here. Actually, you probably don't know this, but there were two turkeys brought to Washington for this occasion. By custom, an alternate is always on hand to fill in if needed.

This one right here—his name is Liberty. And the other turkey, the alternate, his name is Freedom. Now, Freedom is not here because he's in a secure and undisclosed location. [*Laughter*]

This White House tradition dates back to Abraham Lincoln. Probably what you don't know is that Abraham Lincoln had a son named Tad who kept a turkey as a pet. I thought about trying to keep the turkey as a pet, but I don't think the two dogs and the cat would like it.

From our very beginnings, gratitude has been a part of our national character. Through the generations, our country has known its share of hardships. And we've been through some tough times, some testing moments during the last months. Yet, we've never lost sight of the blessings around us: the freedoms we enjoy, the people we love, and the many gifts of our prosperous land.

On this holiday, we give thanks for our many blessings and for life itself. Thanksgiving reminds us that the greatest gifts don't come from the hands of man, but from the Maker of heaven and Earth.

This week American families will gather in that spirit. We will remember, too, those who approach the holidays with a burden of sadness. We think especially of families that recently lost loved ones and of our men and women in the Armed Forces serving far away from home.

This is a Nation of many faiths. And this holiday season we'll all be joined in prayer that those who mourn will find comfort, that those in dangers will find protection, and that God will continue to watch over the land we love.

I now have the duty of ending the suspense of our feathery guest. For this turkey and

his traveling companion, this will not be their last Thanksgiving. They will live out their days in comfort and care of Kidwell Farm of Herndon, Virginia. By virtue of an unconditional Presidential pardon, they are safe from harm.

May God continue to bless America, and I hope everybody has a happy Thanksgiving. Thank you for coming. We'll go over and see the turkey.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:48 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Nick Weaver, chairman, and Stuart Proctor, Jr., president, National Turkey Federation.

Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting and an Exchange With Reporters

November 19, 2001

Operation Enduring Freedom

The President. We just had a very productive Cabinet meeting. We discussed a variety of subjects, spent a fair amount of time on the war and the progress we're making in Afghanistan. We have made great progress there, but there's still a lot of work to do. And the degree of difficulty is increasing as we work hard to achieve our objectives, not the least of which is to bring the Al Qaida to justice.

They're running, and they're trying to hide, and we're in pursuit. And we will stay the course until we bring them to justice. The American people must know it may take longer than some anticipate. They also need to know that we're a very patient group.

Secondly, we've been briefed by Andrew Natsios of the USAID about the humanitarian aid mission. And that, too, is a tough mission. There are millions of Afghans who were starving prior to September the 11th as a result of drought. Obviously, to complicate matters, there has been a war in that land. And yet, this good Nation is doing everything we can to move enormous amounts of food into the areas where people are likely to starve. I'm talking about thousands of tons, metric tons, of food. There are over 2,000 trucks now in place that are able to move more freely now that the Northern Alliance and our military have liberated the northern part of Afghanistan, where the starvation is most likely to occur.

And so we've had a great discussion. And I'm proud of the way our Cabinet has been performing during these very difficult periods.

I'd be glad to answer a few questions. John [John Roberts, CBS News], have you got one?

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, your Secretary of State a little while ago said that he would use U.S. influence to try to bring the two sides together and forge a Middle East peace. Wouldn't it be swifter, sir, if you used the power of your office to do it personally, by meeting with these individuals? And at what point would you do that?

The President. Well, John, first of all, this administration has been working the Middle East ever since we came into office. I've been on the phone with the Prime Minister of Israel, our longtime friend, a lot, as has the Secretary of State. We've been dealing with the Europeans—all kinds of people are interested in the Middle East—reminding them that it takes willing parties. It takes—people must say that they want to work for peace.

And so our objective is to convince both parties to make a conscious decision to come to the peace table. And when they do so, we're more than willing to help. But first things first—is to convince the parties that peace is necessary.

It also is important for us to remind Mr. Arafat that in order for the peace discussions to begin, that the level of violence must substantially be reduced. And so we're working hard with not only the Palestinians but as well as with others who have an interest in the area to work to reduce violence, so that peace discussions can begin in relative security.

Our mind is, of course, on the war in Afghanistan, but it hasn't diverted our attention away from the need to work hard to bring peace to the Middle East. And we would hope to be able to do so.

Usama bin Laden

Q. Mr. President, there have been reports out of Afghanistan that the U.S. military knows or thinks they know where bin Laden might be. Does that mean——

The President. I certainly hope so.

Q. Does that mean the fellow to your left knows? And how soon might America see bin Laden——

The President. Listen, if our military knew where Mr. bin Laden was, he would be brought to justice. We're hunting him down. He runs, and he hides. But as we've said repeatedly, the noose is beginning to narrow; the net is getting tighter. But this is a difficult assignment. Things happened very quickly in Afghanistan recently, as—went to show that our strategy was a well-thought-out strategy. But the objective is yet to be achieved, and we're not leaving until we do achieve the objective.

And the Secretary of Defense and General Tommy Franks, who is doing a magnificent job, understand the objective. We talk about it every single morning. And we will achieve the objective. But I've told the American people right from the get-go of this effort: It may take a month; it may take a year; or however long it takes, we'll succeed.

Economic Stimulus Legislation

Q. Sir, what can you do personally to jumpstart negotiations further on an economic stimulus package? And do you still need one?

The President. Well, I think we need an economic stimulus package. I've said so from the beginning. I'll be meeting a week from tomorrow with the leadership of the Senate and the House and urge the Senators to bring a bill to the floor and get it into conference, so we can resolve whatever differences there may be.

There was a period of time when people said we'd never get an airline security bill. And after a lot of hours of hard work, we got a good bill, which I signed today. And I hope I'll be able to sign an economic stimulus package; I think I will be able to do so. But it's going to require the Senators to come together and move a bill, and then we can reconcile the differences with the House version.

Usama bin Laden

Q. Mr. President, you just said the noose is getting tighter. Without compromising the search, do you have evidence you're getting closer to bin Laden?

The President. Well, it's going to be hard for me to tell you that without compromising the search, except I can point to the map of Afghanistan where more and more territory are now in friendly hands. And the people of Afghanistan understand what Al Qaida and the Taliban Government have meant to their ordinary lives. Women are treated lower than low. There's no respect for human life. There's jubilation in the cities that we have liberated. And the sooner Al Qaida is brought to justice, the sooner Afghanistan will return to normal. People understand that.

And so we've got—let me put it to you this way—the more territory we gain, the more success there is on the ground, the more people we've got looking to help us in our mission. The Secretary of Defense is doing everything he can, as are our military, to bring these people to justice, and we will.

Press Assistant Reed Dickens. Thank you all. Lights. Thank you all.

The President. Go ahead, Terry [Terry Moran, ABC News].

Military Order

Q. On the subject of justice, what do you say to the Members of Congress and people in law schools and civil liberties——

The President. On what subject?

Q. On justice, that your order establishing military——

The President. Yes.

Q. ——to try terrorists, they argue, represents a retreat or an abandonment of traditional American principles.

The President. I say it's the absolute right thing to do. And it is—to set up the option to use a military tribunal in the time of war makes a lot of sense. We're fighting a war, Terry, against the most evil kinds of people. And I need to have that extraordinary option at my fingertips. I ought to be able to have that option available should we ever bring one of these Al Qaida members in alive. It's

our national interests; it's our national security interests we have a military tribunal available. It is in the interests of the safety of potential jurors that we have a military tribunal.

These are extraordinary times. And I would remind those who don't understand the decision I made, that Franklin Roosevelt made the same decision in World War II. Those were extraordinary times, as well.

This Government will do everything we can to defend the American people within the confines of our Constitution. And that's exactly how we're proceeding. And so, to the critics, I say, I made the absolute right decision.

Press Assistant Reed Dickens. Thank you all.

[*At this point, the President turned toward Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.*]

The President. Do you know where Al Qaida is? [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:12 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel; Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority; and Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization.

Remarks at an Iftaar Dinner

November 19, 2001

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. I'm so honored to welcome such distinguished guests and ambassadors during the holy month of Ramadan.

America is made better by millions of Muslim citizens. America has close and important relations with many Islamic nations. So it is fitting for America to honor your friendship and the traditions of a great faith by hosting this Iftaar at the White House.

I want to thank our Secretary of State for being here, as well as members of my administration. I want to thank the Ambassadors for taking time in this holy month to come to join us in this feast.

Ramadan is a time of fasting and prayer for the Muslim faithful. So tonight we are reminded of God's greatness and His Commandments to live in peace and to help neighbors in need. According to Muslim teachings, God first revealed His word in the Holy Koran to the Prophet Muhammad during the month of Ramadan. That word has guided billions of believers across the centuries, and those believers built a culture of learning and literature and science.

All the world continues to benefit from this faith and its achievements. Ramadan and the upcoming holiday season are a good time for people of different faiths to learn more about each other. And the more we learn, the more we find that many commitments are broadly shared. We share a commitment to family, to protect and love our children. We share a belief in God's justice and man's moral responsibility. And we share the same hope for a future of peace. We have much in common and much to learn from one another.

This evening we gather in a spirit of peace and cooperation. I appreciate your support of our objectives in the campaign against terrorism. Tonight that campaign continues in Afghanistan, so that the people of Afghanistan will soon know peace. The terrorists have no home in any faith. Evil has no holy days.

This evening we also gather in the spirit of generosity and charity. As this feast breaks the Ramadan fast, America is also sharing our table with the people of Afghanistan. We are proud to play a leading role in humanitarian relief efforts, with airdrops and truck convoys of food and medicine. America's children are donating their dollars to the Afghan children. And my administration is committed to help reconstruct that country and to support a stable government that represents all of the people of Afghanistan.

We are working for more opportunity and a better life for the people of Afghanistan and all the people of the Islamic world. America respects people of all faiths, and America seeks peace with people of all faiths.

I thank you for your friendship, and I wish you a blessed Ramadan.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:50 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House.

Remarks at So Others Might Eat

November 20, 2001

Thank you. Mel, thank you very much. I appreciate your leadership; I appreciate your vision; and I appreciate your heart. Father Adams referred to Mel—Mel's rescue from Cuba. He came over in a program called Pedro Pan, Peter Pan. And it's when his mother and dad decided that life in Cuba would be rough on young people, and they had great faith in America and great faith in a program that encouraged them to put their little boy on an airplane, and he flew to America.

When we swore in Mel, I'll never forget meeting his adoptive parents that provided a loving home. Mel's a perfect choice to understand what a loving home means. He saw one in a foreign land that enabled him to go from scared little boy to now Secretary of HUD. It's a marvelous story about America. It also helps me to be able to assure people that the Secretary who runs HUD has got a heart of gold and a deep compassion about all Americans, those newly arrived as well as those who have been here for a long period of time. I'm honored that Mel has agreed to serve our Government. And I'm absolutely confident America and the needs of America will be more easily met as a result of his leadership.

Oftentimes, when I speak around the Nation, I talk about the great strength of the Nation lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. I was using military terms at times even before the war began. I talked about armies of compassion. I truly believe that's one of the wonderful strengths of America, that we've got armies of compassion all across our country.

And Father Adams is a general in the army of compassion. He won't admit it. He'll say he's a lowly foot soldier. [*Laughter*] But I saw the way he got people snapping to when it came time to introduce people in the kitchen. [*Laughter*] I see everybody with green aprons on. I suspect the general ordered that to be the case. But anyway—[*laughter*]—but I want to thank Father Adams and everybody else who works here for really bringing out the best in our country by helping people in need.

The other thing that I'm most impressed about the vision of Father Adams, besides being a social entrepreneur, somebody willing to think as aggressively as possible to help people in need, is that this is a program that attracts people from all faiths. That's important for the world to see, that our country is a country of a variety of faiths, that we respect other faiths, and that we're bound by some common principles: Love a neighbor just like you would like to be loved yourself. That's common to faith.

Last night we had an Iftaar dinner at the White House. That's a part of breaking the fast of Ramadan. I wanted to assure people that there are common values, even though we may have different ways to worship God. This program shows those common values. A neighbor in need needs to be helped. We need to constantly figure out ways to reach out and help somebody who may not be as fortunate as we are.

And as we come into the holiday season, the Thanksgiving season, the traditional holiday seasons of our country, we must always remember there are people who hurt in our society. And we will always remember, with blessings come the responsibility to help those in need. And so that's why I've come to So Others Might Eat, to highlight the successful programs that do make a difference in people's lives and to thank people for their concern and care for our fellow Americans who are in need.

There's no question that our country has been deeply wounded. We were attacked. After all, we're never used to being attacked. Never did we dream—I certainly never dreamt that I'd be the President where there is a war on our homefront.

But the evildoers never really—they must have not known who they were attacking. [*Laughter*] They must have thought we were soft and hateful. In fact, the attacks have united our country, have rallied a nation. And out of evil will come good, and part of my purpose as the President is to remind people of the good that can come out of these attacks.

No question that the outpouring of support for—in the direct aftermath of the September 11th attack was astounding. People gave: They gave blood; they gave money; they

gave time to help. And that's great, and I want to thank those Americans who have helped.

But in order to make sure the homefront is secure, in order to make sure that we don't allow the terrorists to achieve any objective, Americans must give generously to programs like SOME, community-based programs that help make their neighborhoods a better place for all.

I have been disturbed by reports that charitable giving has dropped off. I hope Americans will not substitute the gifts they've given in the aftermath of September 11th for neighborhood groups such as SOME or mentoring programs or programs that understand that when you change a person's heart, you can change their life for the better, that faith is such an integral part of our society and faith is such an integral part of helping people help themselves, and that as we think about ways to recognize the true blessings we have in America, that we must never forget the food banks and the hungry and the poor, and that the most effective programs are those that have sprung from the hearts and souls of social entrepreneurs such as Father Adams.

And so, I hope America—I encourage America—that as we head into Thanksgiving, to find a program that needs help. Or, if you have been helping a program in the past, continue your help. The generosity of this country will say to the world that we're a nation that will not be affected by terror and evil; that, in fact, we encourage good to overcome evil through our actions and deeds, not just our bravado, not just our waving of flag but true actions and true compassionate acts of giving, in order to make sure this Nation remains whole and strong and complete.

Government's got a responsibility, as well. There is a role for the Federal Government in making sure that charitable organizations thrive and flourish. Today I am pleased to announce that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is distributing more than $1 billion this year in grants to community charities which serve the homeless. It is the largest such grant in the history of the country. It is a grant program that will help provide food and shelter, drug treatment, job training, and other vital services. It is a part of our Government's desire to support the armies of compassion. We don't want Government to take the good Father's place. We want the Government to stand side by side with the good people of SOME and programs like it all around the country.

We must also promote more private-sector giving, besides just words of encouragement. And so I want to make sure that the Tax Code is changed, and we've got time to do so with the Congress. I've been working closely with Joe Lieberman and Rick Santorum to say that you can deduct—nonitemizers can deduct charitable giving, or that out of your IRA you should be allowed to give gifts to charitable organizations. It is a wise use of the Tax Code to encourage more charitable giving to programs that are positively affecting people's lives, and I think we can get a bill out of Congress to do just that.

I know that the House has responded; J.C. Watts and Tony Hall, Republican and Democrat, work closely together. Lieberman and Santorum are doing the same thing. And so why doesn't Congress, in order to help fight poverty and fight hopelessness, do something smart with legislation and bring it to my desk so I can sign it before Christmas? [*Laughter*] It makes a lot of sense.

I think, as well, we ought to have a tax incentive for food donation. I know that we ought to create what's called a Compassion Capital Fund that will give community-based organizations needed resources and training. I suspect that if we have kind of a capital fund that will encourage people to duplicate that which works, there will be a lot of people coming here to SOME to see why this program is so successful. And I suspect the good Father will be willing to share with others from different communities as to how to make a program like this work.

And the Federal Government ought to be in the process of encouraging the formation of community-based programs, and to that end, we need to simplify the process by which community-based organizations gain tax-exempt status.

The mindset of the Federal Government has been that only Government-sponsored programs should receive Federal money.

That's not my attitude. My attitude is, Government should be nondiscriminatory about how we use taxpayers' money. We ought to ask the question, does the program work? And if faith is the integral part of a program being successful, the Government ought to say, "Hallelujah." We ought to say, "We welcome the good work of faith in our society." We ought not to fear it. We ought to welcome it and encourage it.

And so the faith-based initiative that has passed the House and, hopefully, will pass the Senate recognizes the great power of faith in our society and says that Government ought to encourage the social entrepreneurship that we find here at SOME, and Government ought to encourage the armies of compassion to flourish all around our neighborhoods, that Government ought to welcome faith and not shy away from it.

And as well as in this piece of legislation, we recognize there are some specific tasks that the social entrepreneurial system can deal with, such as a son or daughter of a person in prison. I can't think of anything more profound than to have a national mentoring program, where somebody whose dad or mother is in prison will have somebody put their arm around them and say, "I love you; somebody loves you in our society." There's nothing more profound for a child than to be surrounded by love and care and compassion. So part of this initiative is to encourage the funding of a national mentoring program aimed at some of the most vulnerable in our society—those whose mom or dad may be sitting in prison right now.

The fundamental question is, can America address these problems? And certainly, we can't address them with money alone. But as I'm sure Father Adams will testify, money can help. [*Laughter*] It's part of how a program succeeds. [*Laughter*]

And so, therefore, I ask Americans to dig a little deeper in their pocket. In the aftermath of the tragedy that so deeply affected our Nation, I ask the American people to understand that in order to make America whole, that programs such as SOME make an enormous difference in people's lives; that we are a blessed nation, and as we go into Thanksgiving we ought to thank God for our blessings—for our families, for our fantastic country, for the greatest country on the face of the Earth—we ought to thank Him for the protection that we've received since the attack, thank Him for our blessings, but at the same time seek ways to help, seek ways to help our fellow human, seek ways to save a heart, seek ways to save a soul.

I am so honored to be able to come to this program and highlight the great successes that can take place in neighborhoods when loving Americans come together with the singular purpose of helping a neighbor in need.

May God bless SOME. May God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:23 a.m. in the dining room at SOME's 71 O St. NW location. In his remarks, he referred to Father John Adams, executive director, So Others Might Eat.

Remarks Following Discussions With President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines and an Exchange With Reporters

November 20, 2001

President Bush. It's my honor to welcome the President of the Philippines here to the Oval Office. I had the honor of not only meeting the President but having a great discussion with her in Shanghai, China. She is a highly intelligent, dedicated public servant, to not only better the Philippines but to work with us to make the world more peaceful.

I could tell the first time I talked to her that we had a great ally and friend in our cause. And I look forward to having a good, long discussion today about how we can work together—how to work together more. We've been working together a lot. We've been sharing intelligence; we've been talking strategies.

The United States has got a very close relationship with the Philippines, and I intend to keep it that way. The Philippines have been great allies and friends for a long period of time, and it's in our national interests that we maintain a very close and strong relationship. And so I've really been looking forward to this visit.

I'm so honored for your strong support and for your able leadership. I want to welcome you to the Oval Office.

President Macapagal-Arroyo. Thank you. Thank you.

President Bush. You're welcome to say a few words, if you'd like.

President Macapagal-Arroyo. It's my honor to be here, and the occasion is the 50th anniversary of our mutual defense treaty between our two countries. And this treaty just demonstrates how we've been allies for so long: allies in the Second World War, allies in the cold war, allies in the Korean war, allies in the Vietnam war, and now allies in the war against terrorism.

We're allies, too, in the economic front. The U.S. is our number one trading partner; cumulatively, our number one source of investments. And the Filipinos who live in America are number one in income earning and also number one in education. They are 3 million, and 1.5 of them are voters—1.5 million. So I know that they are very happy about this partnership.

President Bush. Thank you, Madam President.

I'll be glad to answer a couple of questions.

White House Tours

Q. Mr. President, why is it okay for the American public to return to normal and fly and travel in this country, but it is not okay for public tours to enter the White House?

President Bush. Well, Laura and I regret that the public tours aren't going on. It's—particularly during the Christmas holiday season, I know a lot of Americans look forward to touring the White House during this period of time. But we're in extraordinary times, and as I said yesterday, evil knows no holiday; evil knows no—it doesn't welcome a Thanksgiving or Christmas season. And in these extraordinary times, we're taking extraordinary measures.

It is a further reason why we must continue to wage a diligent and consistent fight against terror and to rid the world of terror, to make our country safe so that we can have tours at the White House.

Abu Sayyaf Group

Q. Mr. President, we have advisers on the ground helping the Filipino Army in tracking down and getting rid of Abu Sayyaf. Are you prepared to go the next step, sir? Are you willing to put American combat troops on the ground there?

And President Arroyo, would your Constitution allow that?

President Bush. Well, first of all, I'm willing to listen to President Arroyo; I'm willing to work with her in any way that she wants to. We've had a discussion about Abu Sayyaf. She's got a clear vision about how to fight Abu Sayyaf, and I'll let her speak for herself. But the Philippines are a great ally. They're close friends, and we will cooperate in any way she suggests in getting rid of Abu Sayyaf.

Q. Including combat troops, sir?

President Bush. That's going to be up to the President. It's up to the President to make those decisions. I have asked her point-blank, what help does she need. She says she's got a great military, a competent military; she's confident that her military can deal with Abu Sayyaf. And for that I applaud her and will wish her all the best. And we want to help her military deal with them.

Q. My question was, would your Constitution allow U.S. ground troops to join in an active engagement against Abu Sayyaf?

President Macapagal-Arroyo. We would have to check that. But in any case, as President Bush said, we have a framework on how to fight the Abu Sayyaf, how to fight terrorism in the southwestern part of the Philippines. And the framework covers what we need in terms of diplomatic assistance, technical assistance, assistance in winning hearts and minds, and military assistance. We have advisers from the U.S.; we have equipment from the U.S. All of these are part of our mutual defense treaty.

It just so happens that now the mutual defense treaty facilities are being used in the fight against terrorism. But we've had this pattern for many years now, and I think the pattern is going very well as it is.

President Bush. Let me say something just in general. Your question points up what I have been saying, that the front against terror is not just in Afghanistan, that we're going to fight terror wherever it exists. And we will

work with our allies and friends to use whatever resources we have to win the war against terror.

President Arroyo understands now is the time to make a stand against terrorist activity, whether it be in Afghanistan or in the Philippines or anywhere else Al Qaida exists. Because if we don't make a stand now, our children and grandchildren will not be able to grow up in a free world.

And so we are looking for opportunities to help friends and allies strike Al Qaida wherever they exist. There's a lot of focus, of course, on Afghanistan these days, and I can understand why. But I want people in America to understand that, first of all, the theater in Afghanistan is entering a difficult period of time. We could be there for quite a while, which is fine because we've got an objective in mind, and we'll stay there until we get our objective. But there's going to be other fronts in this theater; there will be other places where we need to work to rout out Al Qaida and other terrorist organizations. And the President and I are going to have a good discussion, a continued discussion, about how we can help the Philippines.

Robert F. Kennedy Building Dedication/ Education Legislation

Q. Sir, later today you're going to the Justice Department for a ceremony renaming it for Mr. Kennedy.

President Bush. Yes.

Q. Why now? And do you hope that you get some help with the education bill out of this? [*Laughter*]

President Bush. Well, I'm not quite that devious. I made the decision to name the Justice Department building after Robert Kennedy because he is deserving—his memory is—and his family are such a great part of American history. He was a wonderful Attorney General, and I think it's fitting to do such. I'll get an education bill based on its merits, not based upon renaming a building for a great American.

Today, interestingly enough, is Robert Kennedy's birthday. And you said, why today? I think it's fitting that we name the building for him on his birthday.

I look forward to the event. Mrs. Kennedy will be there, as are a lot of the Kennedy family. Senator Kennedy will be there; I presume that's who you were referring to about the education bill. I think Senator Kennedy wants to get a bill to my desk, and I feel good that we'll get a bill to the desk here pretty soon.

One from the Philippine press. Excuse me.

Philippines-U.S. Relations

Q. Mrs. President, are you signing any agreement with President Bush regarding our security?

President Macapagal-Arroyo. No, no, we're not. What we're going to talk about is how we can make our partnership against terrorism—both terrorism in the world and terrorism in southern Philippines—more useful, more efficient.

Q. Could you, sir, give more—elaborate on the assistance that will be given to the Philippines?

President Bush. I think the Philippine Government will make that announcement when the President feels comfortable making the announcement. There's been a lot of discussions about military items, discussions about trade, discussions about enhanced commerce, and we look forward to listening to our close friend and ally in ways that we can help. We've got no better friend in that part of the world than the Philippines.

And as the President has said, there are a lot of proud Filipinos living in America. And one of the things that's going to happen after this meeting, she has graciously agreed to have her picture taken with Filipino-Americans working here in the White House. And I've got a confession to make—they're looking forward to having—they're more looking forward to having their picture taken with her than with me. [*Laughter*]

Filipino Veterans Equity Legislation

Q. Did you ask the U.S. President to support the veterans equity bill?

President Bush. The what bill?

Q. The Filipino veterans equity bill.

President Bush. Oh, the veterans security. She did bring up the issue. And she strongly brought it up, and she was an advocate for the Filipino veterans bill, which has been an issue around here for a long period of time.

Q. [*Inaudible*]

President Bush. Good question. I hope by December 1st.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:25 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to the Abu Sayyaf Group, Muslim separatists operating in the southern Philippines.

Joint Statement Between President George W. Bush and President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines on the 50th Anniversary of the U.S.-Philippine Alliance

November 20, 2001

The United States and the Republic of the Philippines today commemorated the 50th anniversary of the signing of the U.S.-Philippine Mutual Defense Treaty, during the visit of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to Washington, D.C.

On this historic occasion, the two Presidents reaffirmed that U.S.-Philippine relations are based on shared history, common values, a commitment to freedom and democracy, and vigorous economic ties. They observed that our alliance is an alliance between two peoples, with 120,000 Americans resident in the Philippines and over two million Americans of Filipino descent living in the United States. Presidents Bush and Macapagal-Arroyo asserted that the strong historical, cultural and personal links between the Philippine and American people will continue to keep our alliance strong and vital in a changing world.

In commemorating the anniversary, President Bush acknowledged the brave contribution that Filipino Veterans of World War II have made to freedom and democracy, and stated that he will carefully consider all legislative proposals to ensure the sacrifices of these veterans are recognized.

President Bush and President Macapagal-Arroyo agreed that the Mutual Defense Treaty has been vital in advancing peace and stability in the Asia Pacific for the past half a century. They noted that the alliance remains a pillar of the U.S. security presence in Asia, which helps preserve a strategic balance that favors freedom and promotes prosperity throughout the region. The two leaders further agreed that the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States, and the terrorist activities of the Abu Sayyaf Group or ASG (which now hold both Filipino and American hostages in the southern Philippines), underscore the urgency of ensuring that the two countries maintain a robust defense partnership into the 21st century.

To further this goal, the two leaders underscored their determination to strengthen their military alliance on a sustained basis, through increased training, exercises, and other joint activities. President Bush thanked President Macapagal-Arroyo for her uncompromising leadership in the global campaign against terror and expressed deep appreciation for the moral support and assistance her government has provided the United States in its time of need. The two Presidents declared that the American and Filipino people stand together in the global campaign against terrorism. Noting that the future peace and prosperity of the world are at stake in the current conflict, both leaders renewed their commitment to the U.S.-Philippine alliance and expressed confidence that the international coalition will emerge victorious over the forces of terror.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Joint Statement Between the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines

November 20, 2001

President George W. Bush and President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo today reaffirmed the strength and warmth of bilateral relations and commemorated the 50th anniversary of the signing of the U.S.-Philippine Mutual Defense Treaty. While celebrating the achievements of half a century of defense cooperation, the two Presidents agreed that the alliance remains vital to both nations, particularly in the wake of the September 11 attacks.

President Bush conveyed his deep appreciation for President Macapagal-Arroyo's leadership in the fight against terror, both within the southern Philippines and against

international terrorist networks. He specifically noted with appreciation Philippine offers of logistical and other support to the coalition, as well as President Arroyo's efforts to forge a regional ASEAN approach to combating terror. President Bush also welcomed passage of new anti-money laundering legislation as a concrete step in the global effort against terrorism, and offered to provide technical assistance to help the Philippines effectively implement the new law. Emphasizing U.S. support for a strong, united ASEAN, President Bush further offered all appropriate assistance to help ASEAN improve its capacity to combat transnational threats, including terrorism and the illegal narcotics trade.

The two Presidents agreed that the war against terrorism should be fought in parallel with the war against poverty, and that the most effective and least-costly anti-poverty bilateral cooperation measure would be to work together to open markets worldwide. The two Presidents, therefore, resolved to work closely to expand trade bilaterally, regionally and globally, particularly in the context of the Doha Development Agenda. President Bush agreed to work with the United States Congress to provide the Philippines over $1 billion in Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) benefits. He also noted that the growth rate of quotas of U.S. imports of textiles and apparel from the Philippines would increase by 27 percent beginning in January 2002, in accordance with U.S. commitments to the WTO. The two leaders directed their Trade Ministers to reinvigorate and convene the U.S.-Philippine Trade and Investment Council within the first half of 2002.

Some long-standing issues are being resolved even before these missions, including approval of Philippine mangos for export to the United States. USDA and the Philippine Department of Agriculture further signed a Memorandum of Agreement on November 19 to renew and expand activities involving wide-ranging scientific, technological, and agribusiness cooperation. USDA will make available guarantee programs of $150 million for U.S. agricultural exports and equipment to the Philippines that support the modernization of Philippine agriculture and fisheries. Arrangements are also being made to provide up to $40 million in PL–480 food aid for fiscal year 2002, subject to budget allocations.

President Macapagal-Arroyo emphasized her government's commitment to fight poverty, accelerate economic reform, enhance transparency and promote good governance. In support of these objectives, President Bush announced that in addition to assistance for Mindanao, he is seeking $29 million from Congress in fiscal year 2002 monies to support poverty alleviation, economic growth, and anti-corruption efforts throughout the Philippines. As an expression of confidence in President Macapagal-Arroyo's strong leadership on economic reform, President Bush further announced that the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) will extend a special line of credit of $200 million, building on its current substantial portfolio commitments for private sector investment in the Philippines, including in the housing sector. The two Presidents agreed to work to increase American investment in the Philippines, considering the close partnership between their countries.

The two Presidents affirmed their shared commitment to protecting the environment, pledging to continue the environmental activities, including technical cooperation, under the July 2000 Joint Statement of Cooperation on Environment and Public Health. President Bush also informed President Macapagal-Arroyo that the Philippines has been declared eligible to participate in debt treatment programs under the U.S. Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) of 1998. TFCA provides for the cancellation of a portion of concessional debt owed to the United States (which, in the case of the Philippines, currently totals approximately $430 million) in exchange for a commitment to make local currency payments to support domestic forest conservation activities.

The two Presidents discussed the situation in the southern Philippines, where separatist conflict and armed insurgency have raged for decades. President Bush and President Macapagal-Arroyo expressed deep concern for the safety of Philippine and American hostages held by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in the southern Philippines and called

for their immediate and unconditional release. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to secure the safe return of all hostages and to put an end to the terrorist acts committed by the ASG.

They discussed the recent trip to the Philippines by a U.S. counterterrorism assistance team, which assessed the capabilities and needs of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in their campaign against the ASG. The two leaders affirmed that they would continue to work on a vigorous, integrated plan to strengthen the Philippine security forces' capacity to combat terror and protect Philippine sovereignty. Such an integrated plan would include a robust training package, equipment needed for increased mobility, a maintenance program to enhance overall capabilities, specific targeted law enforcement and counterterrorism cooperation, and a new bilateral defense consultative mechanism. As a preliminary step to enhance Philippine military modernization, President Bush pledged to work with the Congress for at least a ten-fold increase in Foreign Military Financing (FMF), from $1.9 million to $19 million for fiscal year 2002, and to sustain heightened assistance levels in fiscal year 2003. He further announced his intent to provide an additional $10 million in Department of Defense goods and/or services to assist the Armed Forces of the Philippines and another $10 million to support counterterrorism and law enforcement assistance. In total, security assistance from the Bush Administration to the Macapagal-Arroyo Administration, offered and/or delivered, is expected to be worth nearly $100 million for fiscal years 2001–2002.

While pledging military cooperation to end the terrorist activities of the ASG, both leaders agreed that sustainable peace in Mindanao in the southern Philippines requires addressing Mindanao's root economic and social problems. President Bush praised President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to pursue a political path to peace with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and welcomed the recent cease-fire signed between the MILF and the Government of the Philippines. To help consolidate the peace and to promote economic and social development in Muslim communities, President Bush announced that he is working with the United States Congress to more than double U.S. assistance to Mindanao with a fiscal year 2002 package worth over $38 million. Combined with fiscal year 2001 assistance, the United States will provide over $55 million to Mindanao.

This Mindanao Assistance Package will provide direct support for the nascent peace process by integrating the ex-combatants and their communities into the peacetime economy; creating an environment in Mindanao that is attractive for investment, job creation and economic progress; and providing improved public services in Mindanao, especially in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. This package will also include $825,000 in new educational and cultural exchanges, including a number of Fulbright scholarship grants, specifically targeted at Mindanao's Muslim community. This represents an almost 90 percent increase in educational exchange programming for Mindanao. The President further committed to work with Congress and other donors to secure additional resources for Mindanao, as the peace process moves forward in the years ahead.

To complement this assistance, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (TDA) is taking a pro-active approach to encourage the U.S. private sector's involvement in Mindanao's infrastructure development. Both Presidents welcome TDA's signing of a $302,500 grant agreement to plan the development of a commercially sustainable solar-powered irrigation system for rural farming communities and look forward to future TDA projects that will further promote sustainable development for the people of Mindanao. President Bush expressed condolences for the victims of the severe typhoon that hit the Mindanao region earlier this month and noted that the United States contributed $100,000 in disaster relief assistance to help affected families. To help better prepare for, and respond to, future disasters, the two leaders welcomed the signing of a U.S.-Philippine protocol of intentions on cooperation on disaster prevention and management.

The meeting between President Bush and President Macapagal-Arroyo was characterized by unusual warmth and candor and heralded a new era of comprehensive cooperation and friendship between the United States and the Philippines.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks on the Dedication of the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building

November 20, 2001

Thank you all. Please be seated. Joe, thank you for those stirring words. There's nothing quite like the eloquence of a loyal son. I want to welcome you and all your brothers and sisters and your mom; Senator Kennedy. I want to thank the Attorneys General who are here. I want to thank our current Attorney General. Thank you for being here, Director. I want to thank the Members of the Congress who are here, the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives for coming, both Republicans and Democrats. I want to thank Administrator Perry; ladies and gentlemen.

I'm so very pleased to be with you in giving this building a great American name. Seventy-nine Americans have held the title of Attorney General, and 25 of them worked in this building. But in the history of this Department and in the memory of our country we hold a special place for Robert Francis Kennedy.

He first worked here 50 years ago, as Joe said. Just out of law school at the University of Virginia, he reported here every morning to the Criminal Division. He was 26, married, the father of one, a baby girl who is now the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Maryland.

Ahead of him were many more accomplishments and a lot more children. [*Laughter*] There's no doubt in my mind that he would look upon his sons and daughters and his grandkids with such incredible pride.

America first saw him and heard his voice in the mid-fifties when he was minority counselor to the Senate committee investigating organized crime. There was something about him that no one could miss, an intense intelligence present, a voice that could quiet a room. As a friend has remembered him, Robert Kennedy was not a hard man, but he was a tough man. He valued bluntness and precision and truth. Those under investigation learned those qualities firsthand.

In the eyes of John F. Kennedy, no man ever had a more faithful brother. During his Presidential campaign, he said, "I don't know what Bobby does, but it always seems to turn out right." We are told that after the election the younger brother wasn't sure he wanted to join the Cabinet, and he said so to the President-elect. Robert tried to make the case explaining why he should not become Attorney General. There was no reply. The President-elect simply left the room and casually returned a few minutes later to say, "So that's it, General. Let's go." [*Laughter*]

To this day, visitors to the West Wing, seeing the Rose Garden and the Colonnade, instantly think of the pictures of the two brothers together. And from this day, his birthday, everyone who enters this building or passes by will think of Robert F. Kennedy and what he still means to this country.

He was not our longest serving Attorney General, yet none is more fondly remembered. And few have filled their time here with so much energy or seen events of such consequence. He was at his brother's side during the 13 days in October 1962, where he was firm and discerning and calm.

In this building, he set to work on what would become the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Here, he gave the orders sending 500 U.S. marshals to protect the Freedom Riders. He stood for racial desegregation. And to those on the other side of the issue, he said this: "My belief doesn't matter. It's the law. Some of you may believe the decision was wrong. That doesn't matter. It is the law."

With us today are some of the people who worked for our 64th Attorney General, each of whom counts it as an experience of a lifetime. They still look up to him. Time has done nothing to weaken their loyalty to the valiant and idealistic man they knew and followed. Robert Kennedy was a serious man, concerned with serious things. And he loved his friends. He was a strong man who understood weakness, a man who knew privilege

but also suffering. He fought to gain power, chose to use it in the defense of the powerless.

To millions who never knew him, he's still an example of kindness and courage. America today is passing through a time of incredible testing. And as we do so, we admire even more the spirit of Robert Kennedy, a spirit that tolerates no injustice and fears no evil. That's how this country sees him.

But today and every November 20th, a large and loving family thinks of the dad they miss. Some of you know your way around this building because he brought you here. As Joe said, the Attorney General's conference room was then his office and a playroom. And as the photos displayed here make it clear, he also enjoyed one of my favorite perks of office—you get to bring your dog to work. [*Laughter*]

Of all that he left behind, nothing brings Robert Kennedy more clearly to mind than his good wife. In the first year of their marriage, he recorded his feelings by quoting the Book of Ruth: "Whither thou goest, I will go, and we will be together forever."

For 33 years, Ethel Kennedy has walked with grace and dignity, faithful to God and to the memory of her husband. Any tribute to Robert Kennedy must also be a tribute to Mrs. Robert Kennedy. She shares in all his achievements; she's added many of her own. Mrs. Kennedy, America honors you as well.

This great building, and all who work here, serve the public in the cause of justice. It now bears the name of a good and decent man, truly devoted to justice. On behalf of the people of the United States, I proudly dedicate the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:37 p.m. in the Great Hall of the newly designated Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building. In his remarks, he referred to Joseph P. Kennedy III, who introduced the President, and Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend of Maryland.

Memorandum on the Naming of the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building

November 20, 2001

Memorandum for the Administrator of General Services

Subject: Naming of the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building

Today we mark the 76th anniversary of the birth of Robert F. Kennedy, who served this Nation with great distinction in the United States Navy, as a respected attorney, as a United States Senator, and as our 64th Attorney General. As Attorney General, Robert F. Kennedy successfully led the Department of Justice in important struggles that have come to symbolize the Department's capacity to do good. Whether fighting against organized crime or for civil rights, Attorney General Kennedy brought out the best in the Department of Justice, working for a more just, free, and law-abiding society. It is fitting that the Main Justice building in our Nation's capital should be dedicated to Robert F. Kennedy's memory, so that generations of Americans yet to come will remember his contributions to preserving justice.

I hereby direct you to designate the Federal Building located at 10th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., in Washington, District of Columbia, as the "Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building," and such facility shall be thereafter known and referred to by that name.

George W. Bush

Videotape Remarks for the "Thanks for Giving" Campaign

November 20, 2001

The President. This year, Thanksgiving will mean more than it ever has before.

The First Lady. So many have given their time, their talent——

The President. ——their bravery, their sacrifice, and courage to keep this country strong.

Some believe it's astonishing; I believe it's the American character.

The First Lady. As your family gathers, give thanks, and think of all that can be done in your community.

The President. Thanks for making such a difference. Thanks for giving.

God bless you, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped during the afternoon on November 15 at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, for later broadcast. The public service announcement and the script were released on the White House Web site on November 20.

Remarks to the Community at Fort Campbell, Kentucky

November 21, 2001

The President. Thank you all very much. At ease. Thank you all very much. Laura and I are proud, really proud, to be with the men and women of the finest army in the whole world. This Thanksgiving, Americans are especially thankful for our freedom, and we are especially thankful to you, the people who keep us free.

I want to thank your general, "Commander Cody," for his hospitality and for his leadership. I took a good look at him. I'm glad he's on my side, and I'm glad you are, as well. I want to thank General Ellis. General Ellis has got a huge job. We've called upon a good man to accomplish that job.

I want to thank Sergeant Major Clifford West. I want to thank the Governors from the States represented here at Fort Campbell: Governor Paul Patton and Governor Don Sundquist, from Kentucky and Tennessee.

I want to thank the Senators who are here with us from the two States: Senator Mitch McConnell, my good friend; I hope to see him in DC for a lot of years coming. And I want to thank Jim Bunning. He was telling me he thought my fastball, when I threw it at Yankee Stadium, had a little zip on it. Nothing like his fastballs. [*Laughter*]

I want to thank Senator Fred Thompson and Senator Bill Frist, two fine United States Senators from Tennessee. I want to thank Congressman Ed Bryant from Tennessee for being here, as well. All of these men respect and support the United States military, and they represent the best of our country in the Halls of our Congress.

Congressman Ed Whitfield, who represents this district, wanted to be here today, but he's spending the holiday with the U.S. service men and women from Kentucky who are stationed in Kosovo. They're in our prayers this Thanksgiving, as are all the troops overseas.

And I want to thank Congressman Whitfield's dad, Mr. E.O. Whitfield, for coming here in his stead.

[*At this point, a woman cheered.*]

The President. Sounds like E.O. brought his wife. [*Laughter*]

We're honored to be at the home of the 101st Airborne. I've got two words I want to say to you: "Air assault!" I met some of you all when I visited Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo, and some of you invited me to your home. I came, and I'm glad I'm here. I will always remember this as the day I ate turkey with the Screaming Eagles.

More than 3,000 soldiers from this post have been deployed to Kosovo for 6-month rotations. They kept supplies away from rebels in Macedonia, made the recent election in Kosovo possible. I'm glad to report that all of them from this base will be home by Thanksgiving.

And there are other fine units that call Fort Campbell home: the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment; the 5th Special Forces Group; other essential groups that shall remain nameless. [*Laughter*]

All Americans are especially grateful—especially grateful—for the sacrifice of our military families, the husbands and wives, the sons and daughters, the mothers and dads. Some of you have loved ones that are deployed or will be deployed far from home in a war against terror and evil. And our Nation and the world are counting on your loved ones. They're making us secure, and they are making us proud.

Men and women of Fort Campbell, your country and your President are proud of you, as well. The 101st Airborne—the 101st Airborne is living out its motto; once again, you have a "rendezvous with destiny." And so

does our country. We're freedom's home and defender. And today, we're the target of freedom's enemies.

Our enemies are evil, and they're ruthless. They have no conscience. They have no mercy. They have killed thousands of our citizens and seek to kill many more. They seek to overthrow friendly governments to force America to retreat from the world. They seek weapons of mass destruction. But we're seeking them. We're fighting them, and one by one, we're bringing them to justice.

We fight now—this great Nation fights now to save ourselves and our children from living in a world of fear. We fight now because we will not permit the terrorists, these vicious and evil men, to hijack a peaceful religion and to impose their will on America and the world. We fight now, and we will keep on fighting until our victory is complete.

We cannot know every turn this war will take. But I'm confident of the outcome. I believe in the strong resolve of the American people. I believe good triumphs over evil, and I believe in the fearless hearts of the United States military.

We fight the terrorists, and we fight all of those who give them aid. America has a message for the nations of the world: If you harbor terrorists, you are terrorists; if you train or arm a terrorist, you are a terrorist; if you feed a terrorist or fund a terrorist, you're a terrorist, and you will be held accountable by the United States and our friends.

The Taliban know that. Our military forces and the forces of our allies, and many Afghans seeking a better future, are liberating Afghanistan. And the Afghan people are celebrating. Today 27 of 30 Afghanistan provinces are no longer under Taliban control. We've cut the Taliban and terrorists' lines of communications, and they're on the run.

We've made a good start in Afghanistan; yet, there is still a lot to be done. There are still terrorists on the loose in Afghanistan, and we will find and destroy their network, piece by piece. The most difficult steps in this mission still lie ahead. Our enemies hide in sophisticated cave complexes, located in some of the most mountainous and rugged territory. These hideouts are heavily fortified and defended by fanatics who will fight to the death. Unlike efforts to liberate a town or destroy Taliban equipment, success against these cells may come more slowly. But we'll prevail. We'll prevail with a combination of good information, decisive action, and great military skill.

The enemy—the enemy hopes they can hide until we tire. But we're going to prove them wrong. We will never tire, and we will hunt them down.

The Afghan people deserve a just and stable government. And we will work with the United Nations to help them build it. Our diplomats in the region, in Europe, in New York, and in Washington, are in communications with all parties. We're urging them to move quickly toward a government that is broadly based, multiethnic, and protects the rights and dignity of all Afghan citizens, including women.

Winter is coming, and years of drought and Taliban misrule have placed many Afghans on the brink of starvation. We will work with the world to bring them food and medicine. While we fight evil, this great country will help those who suffer.

Afghanistan is just the beginning on the war against terror. There are other terrorists who threaten America and our friends, and there are other nations willing to sponsor them. We will not be secure as a nation until all of these threats are defeated. Across the world and across the years, we will fight these evil ones, and we will win.

Great causes are not easy causes. It was a long way from Bunker Hill to Yorktown. It was a long way for the 101st from Normandy to final victory over fascism in Europe. When wronged, our great Nation has always been patient and determined and relentless, and that's the way we are today. We have defeated enemies of freedom before, and we will defeat them again.

And this struggle must be won at home, in our own cities, on our own soil. A lot of good people—police officers, FBI agents, intelligence agents, and health officials—are working hard to protect Americans from new threats. And Americans are being vigilant, themselves. No matter what lies ahead, we'll be alert; we'll be careful; and we'll never be intimidated. We're proud Americans, and we'll live like Americans: We'll travel; we'll

build on our prosperity; we'll live the lives of free people.

Yet, make no mistake about it: Wars are not won on the homefront alone. Wars are won by taking the fight to the enemy. America is not waiting for terrorists to try to strike us again. Wherever they hide, wherever they plot, we will strike the terrorists.

This mission will require sacrifice by our men and women in uniform. America appreciates that sacrifice. And I make a promise in return: Our military will have everything you need to win in the long battle that lies ahead. You'll have every resource, every weapon, every possible tool to ensure full victory for the cause of freedom.

These have been hard months for Americans. Yet, this Thanksgiving we have so much to be thankful for. We're thankful for the love of our families. We're thankful for the goodness and generosity of our fellow citizens. We're thankful for the freedoms of our country. And we're so very thankful to you, the men and women who wear our uniform.

Thanks to you, the people of Afghanistan have the hope of a better life. Thanks to you, many Afghan women are walking in public again and walking with dignity. Thanks to you, eight humanitarian aid workers, including two Americans, are free today, instead of sitting in a Taliban jail. Thanks to you, every nation is seeing what will happen if you cast your lot with the terrorists. Thanks to you, there is less fear in the world and more freedom and more hope and a better chance for peace.

Every one of you is dedicated to something greater than yourself. You put your country ahead of your comfort. You live by a code, and you fight for a cause. And I'm honored to be your Commander in Chief.

Audience members. U.S.A.! U.S.A.! U.S.A.!

The President. I want to thank you all for such a warm greeting. I want to thank your service to a great nation.

May God bless the men and women who wear our uniform, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:48 p.m. at the parade grounds. In his remarks, he referred to Maj. Gen. Richard A. Cody, USA, commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Clifford R. West, USA, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell; Gen. Larry R. Ellis, commanding general, U.S. Army Forces Command; and rescued humanitarian aid workers Heather Mercer and Dayna Curry of the United States, Peter Bunch and Diana Thomas of Australia, and George Taubmann, Margrit Stebnar, Kati Jelinek, and Silke Duerrkopf of Germany.

Proclamation 7505—To Modify the Tariff-Rate Quota Applicable to Imports of Steel Wire Rod

November 21, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On February 16, 2000, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2253), President Clinton issued Proclamation 7273, which imposed a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) on certain steel wire rod imports provided for in subheadings 7213.91, 7213.99, 7227.20 and 7227.90.60 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) for a period of 3 years plus 1 day. Proclamation 7273 did not allocate the in-quota quantity of the TRQ among supplier countries.

2. Pursuant to section 203(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(g)), in order to provide for the efficient and fair administration of the TRQ, I have determined that the in-quota quantity of the TRQ should be allocated among supplier countries in the manner set forth in the Annex to this proclamation.

3. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to sections 203 and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to allocate the in-quota quantity of the TRQ on wire rod imports, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS is modified as set forth in the Annex to this proclamation.

(2) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(3) Effective at the close of March 1, 2004, or such other date that is 1 year from the close of this relief, the U.S. note and tariff provisions established in the Annex of this proclamation shall be deleted from the HTS.

(4) The modifications to the HTS made by this proclamation and the Annex hereto shall be effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, after the close of November 23, 2001, and shall continue in effect through the close of March 1, 2003, unless such actions are earlier expressly modified or terminated.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 27, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation and the attached annex will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 28.

Proclamation—National Family Week, 2001

November 21, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

American families are the bedrock of our society. They are the primary source of strength and health for both individuals and communities across our Nation. As we continue our recovery from the horrific acts committed by terrorists against the United States on September 11, our families provide us with a vital source of comfort and reassurance.

Americans grieve with those who suffered the loss of a family member in the brutal and cowardly terrorist attacks. The September 11 tragedy has allowed America to see firsthand the profound bonds of love that characterize the American family. Parents, children, spouses, and siblings mourned their lost loved ones, cared for the injured, and prayed for protection and health for all Americans. In the midst of great loss, we saw great love flowing from the hearts of America's families.

My Administration is committed to strengthening the American family. Many one-parent families are also a source of comfort and reassurance, yet a family with a mom and dad who are committed to marriage and devote themselves to their children helps provide children a sound foundation for success. Government can support families by promoting policies that help strengthen the institution of marriage and help parents rear their children in positive and healthy environments.

My proposed budget includes initiatives that encourage family cohesion. It provides over $60 million for grants that encourage responsible fatherhood. Grants would be awarded to groups that promote successful parenting and strong marriages and to faith-based and community organizations that help unemployed or low-income parents and their children avoid or leave welfare. This initiative will help spur new community-level approaches to aid low-income families.

To strengthen States' ability to promote child safety, stability, and well-being, my budget also proposes a substantial increase in funding for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program. These additional resources will help States keep children with their biological families, when safe and appropriate, or place children with loving adoptive families. By undertaking more preventative efforts to help families in crisis, the prospects for children to live in a permanent home are enhanced.

As we observe National Family Week, we must work to strengthen families in America as individuals and through Government and

community-based organizations. This week serves to remind us of the values, security, and love that we give and receive in our families.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 18 through November 24, 2001, as "National Family Week." I invite the States, communities, and people of the United States to join together in observing this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities to honor our Nation's families.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

NOTE: At the time of publication, this proclamation had not been received by the Office of the Federal Register for assignment of a proclamation number.

Memorandum on Fiscal Year 2002 Refugee Admissions

November 21, 2001

Presidential Determination No. 2002–04

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Presidential Determination on FY 2002 Refugee Admissions Numbers and Authorizations of In-Country Refugee Status Pursuant to Sections 207 and 101(a)(42), Respectively, of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and Determination Pursuant to Section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act, as Amended

In accordance with section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the "Act") (8 U.S.C. 1157), as amended, and after appropriate consultations with the Congress, I hereby make the following determinations and authorize the following actions:

The admission of up to 70,000 refugees to the United States during FY 2002 is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest; provided, however, that this number shall be understood as including persons admitted to the United States during FY 2002 with Federal resettlement assistance under the Amerasian immigrant admissions program, as provided below.

The 70,000 admissions numbers shall be allocated among refugees of special humanitarian concern to the United States in accordance with the following regional allocations; provided, however, that the number allocated to the East Asia region shall include persons admitted to the United States during FY 2002 with Federal refugee resettlement assistance under section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act of 1988, as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100–202 (Amerasian immigrants and their family members); provided further that the number allocated to the former Soviet Union shall include persons admitted who were nationals of the former Soviet Union, or in the case of persons having no nationality, who were habitual residents of the former Soviet Union, prior to September 2, 1991:

Africa	22,000
East Asia	4,000
Eastern Europe	9,000
Former Soviet Union	17,000
Latin America/Caribbean	3,000
Near East/South Asia	15,000

Unused admissions numbers allocated to a particular region may be transferred to one or more other regions if there is an overriding need for greater numbers for the region or regions to which the numbers are being transferred. You are hereby authorized and directed to consult with the Judiciary Committees of the Congress prior to reallocation of numbers from one region to another.

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, I hereby determine that assistance to or on behalf of persons applying for admission to the United States as part of the overseas refugee admissions program will contribute to the foreign policy interests of the United States and designate such persons for this purpose.

An additional 10,000 refugee admissions numbers shall be made available during FY 2002 for the adjustment to permanent resident status under section 209(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1159(b)) of aliens who have been granted asylum in the United States under section 208 of the Act (8 U.S.C. 1158), as this is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest.

In accordance with section 101(a)(42) of the Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)) and after appropriate consultation with the Congress, I also specify that, for FY 2002, the following persons may, if otherwise qualified, be considered refugees for the purpose of admission to the United States within their countries of nationality or habitual residence:

a. Persons in Vietnam

b. Persons in Cuba

c. Persons in the former Soviet Union

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress immediately and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on the National Emergency With Respect to Burma

November 21, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 18

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned from Crawford, TX, to Washington, DC.

November 19

In the morning, the President met with his National Security Council. Later, he traveled to Arlington, VA, and then returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik of Norway for a meeting in the White House on December 5.

November 20

In the morning, the President met with his Homeland Security Council.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Jorge Fernando Quiroga Ramirez of Bolivia to the White House on December 6.

November 21

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Fort Campbell, KY. Later, they traveled to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel for a working visit on December 3–4, 2001.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael E. Toner to be a member of the Federal Election Commission.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released November 17

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.J. Res. 74

Released November 19

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik of Norway

Fact sheet: The U.S. Commitment to the Afghan People

Released November 20

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary: President Quiroga of Bolivia To Visit Washington

Transcript of a press briefing by Counselor to the President Karen Hughes, Ad Council CEO Peggy Conlon, and Corporation for National and Community Service CEO Leslie Lenkowsky on announcement of the "Thanks for Giving" PSA

Fact sheet: President Urges Support for America's Charities

Released November 21

Statement by the Press Secretary: Israeli Prime Minister Sharon To Visit Washington

Acts Approved by the President

Approved November 17

H.J. Res. 74 / Public Law 107–70
Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes

Approved November 19

S. 1447 / Public Law 107–71
Aviation and Transportation Security Act

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